



THE OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE
Library Assistants' Association.

Edited by

H. TAPLEY SOPER,

Public Library, Stoke Newington, N.

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N.B. See also "Greater London," by E. Walford, M.A., F.S.A. (page 360): "Methods of Social Reform," by Prof. W. Stanley Jevons, M.A., F.R.S., LL.D.: "Public Libraries," by T. Greenwood, F.R.G.S.; &c., &c.

† As a matter of fact it will be found in about nine-tenths of the Libraries using Indicators Over 350 Institutions are now using it.

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A. C. Stearns

The Library Assistant:

The Official Organ of the Library Assistants' Association.

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THE LIBRARY ASSISTANTS' ASSOCIATION.

FOUNDED 1895.

SEVENTH SESSION.

YEAR 1901-1902.

Members are requested to read carefully the announcements appearing on this and the following pages, as no further intimation of meetings and other arrangements may be expected.

JANUARY MEETING.

The January meeting of the L.A.A. will be held at Battersea Public Library, Lavender Hill, S.W., on Wednesday, January 15th, at 8 p.m., by kind invitation of Mr. Lawrence Inkster, the Borough Librarian.

Members will be addressed by Mr. F. E. Chennell, Librarian of Willesden Green, on the *Pleasures of Librarianship*, and it is hoped that there will be a large attendance of library assistants, whether members of the L.A.A. or not.

MR. GREENWOOD'S PRESENTATION TO OUR MEMBERS.

Each member of the L.A.A. who has not yet received a copy of Greenwood's "Year Book" should make early application to the Hon. Sec., such application to be accompanied by four penny stamps to defray postage.

DECEMBER MEETING.

The sessional meeting for December was held at the West Ham Central Library on Wednesday, December 11th, at the invitation of Mr. Cotgreave, who, as is his wont, entertained his guests right royally.

Every facility was given the members for inspecting the working of a successful indicator library, and following so closely the visit to Croydon, gave them an excellent opportunity of comparing the two systems and weighing their relative merits.

Prior to the ordinary meeting, a special general meeting was held to consider a number of proposals brought forward by Mr. Philip, particulars of which were published in our November issue. After consideration the first three motions were lost, the fourth one, altering the date of the Annual Meeting from the summer to the winter, being carried by a majority of two.

At 8 p.m. the ordinary meeting commenced, Mr. Cotgreave welcoming the members, and expressing his pleasure at seeing them there from year to year in ever increasing numbers. The "Cotgreave" 1901 Prize Essay, entitled, "How to popularise a Public Library," was then read by Mr. Harris, the successful competitor, and provoked a good discussion, although some disappointment was felt that a number of important points,

owing to the 1,000 words limit, had not been dealt with at greater length. In order to allow further scope, Mr. Cotgreave has suggested that the limit should be increased to 2,000 words, and has generously offered to increase the 1902 prize to two guineas. Particulars of this competition will shortly be issued.

On the motion of Mr. Soper, seconded by Mr. Coutts, a hearty vote of thanks was accorded to Mr. Harris for having read his paper.

Mr. F. Meaden Roberts moved a vote of thanks to Mr. Cotgreave for his presence that evening, and for the innumerable other things for which we were indebted to him. This was seconded by Mr. Pickard and carried by acclamation.

Prior to the close of the meeting, the Chairman (Mr. Rees) announced his election to a seat on the Council of the *Library Association*, an announcement which was received with loud applause. Mr. Rees said that he very much appreciated this honour, and that he knew the members of the L.A.A. would take it as a recognition of the work of their Association, for he felt sure that it was on account of his official connection with the Library Assistants' Association that he had been elected to a seat on the Council of the older and more important Association. The Chairman was heartily congratulated upon the honour bestowed upon him.

Before leaving, Mr. Cotgreave entertained his guests to light refreshments, and presented to each a copy of his valuable *Guille-Alles Catalogue*, a gift which, needless to say, was greatly appreciated. A most enjoyable and profitable evening came to an end all too soon.

By special permission from Mr. Cotgreave, we are enabled to present with this issue an excellent portrait, with a fac-simile autograph, of the genial Chief of the West Ham Libraries.

W. G. C.

N.W. BRANCH ANNUAL MEETING.

The third Annual Meeting of the North-Western Branch was held on Wednesday, December 18th, in the Reference Library, Manchester, Mr. J. H. Swann presiding.

The annual report was laid before the meeting, and, together with that of the Hon. Treasurer, was adopted. The report of the Treasurer showed a small balance on the right side.

It is gratifying to report that although eight members have left the Branch for various reasons during the past year there is a gain of ten members over previous records.

The election of officers resulted in the Chairman being unanimously re-elected, and a Vice-Chairman (Mr. J. W. Dickens)

was also appointed. The Hon. Secretary having asked to be relieved of his duties, Mr. W. Quarmby was elected to fill the office. Mr. W. Crompton was re-elected Hon. Treasurer, and the following members were elected to serve on the Committee :— Messrs. H. W. Kirke (Chetham Hospital), A. Baker (Chester), H. Percival, P. D. Gordon (Manchester), W. Montgomery (Bootle), W. H. Shawcross (Bury), and W. Berry (Oldham).

The retiring Officers and Committee having been accorded a hearty vote of thanks, the proceedings terminated, and the distribution of copies of the "British Library Year Book," presented to the Association by Mr. Thomas Greenwood, took place.

N.W. BRANCH JANUARY MEETING.

The next meeting will be held in the Athenæum (George Street entrance), Manchester, on Wednesday, January 15th, when members are requested to contribute short papers, or to make brief remarks on such subjects as "The Sunday opening of Libraries," "Library Hints," etc., etc. Intending contributors should intimate the subject of their paper or remarks to Mr. W. Quarmby, Hon. Sec., on or before January 13th.

Those members who did not attend the Annual Meeting may have a copy of the "British Library Year Book" on remitting postage to the Hon. Secretary, or they will be obtainable at the January meeting.

N.W. BRANCH SUBSCRIPTIONS.

Subscriptions to the N.W. Branch for 1902 are now due, and should be forwarded to the Hon. Treasurer, Mr. W. Crompton, Y.M.C.A. Library, Manchester, as early as possible. All other communications should be addressed to the Hon. Secretary, Mr. Wilfred Quarmby, Central Public Library, Oldham.

FOURTH ANNUAL DINNER.

The Fourth Annual Dinner of the Association was held at Anderton's Hotel, Fleet Street, on Wednesday, November 27th. About 40 members and friends of the Association sat down, among them being Mr. W. Bridle, of East Ham; Mr. A. Cotgreave, of West Ham; Mr. C. J. Courtney, of the Minet Library; Mr. R. A. Peddie; Mr. Roberts, of St. Saviour's; and Mr. Taylor, of St. Giles. Letters of regret at inability to attend had been received from several gentlemen, among them being Mr. Fortescue, Dr. Garnett, Mr. Greenwood, Mr. Henry Ogle, Mr. Pacy, and Mr. Tedder. The Chair and Vice-Chair were occupied by Mr. E. G. Rees (Westminster), and Mr. S. A. Hatcher (West Ham) respectively.

The loyal toasts having been honoured, Mr. H. D. Roberts proposed the toast of "The Library Assistants' Association." In the course of a very happy speech he said that he had always taken a great interest in the Association. The first meeting they held in a Public Library was at St. Saviour's, and he was the first Public Librarian to read a paper before them. He hoped the Association would continue to progress. It had come to stay, and its membership was a stepping stone to something higher. He recommended all to work for and obtain the certificate of the Library Association. He hoped to see all senior appointments fall to certificated men, and that the Association would impress upon its members the advisability of working for it.

Mr. Rees, in replying, expressed pleasure that it had been proposed by a gentleman so well known to the library world, and that many librarians were present. At the last moment Mr. Welch, of the Guildhall, had been prevented by a severe chill from attending. Librarians should be glad to see their assistants members of the Association, and should encourage them to join. Apart from its educational influence it gave them opportunities for interchange of experience, for seeing other libraries, and hearing addresses from men well able to teach them. They would thus become better assistants, and better work would be done.

The toast of "Our Provincial and Colonial Colleagues" was proposed by Mr. W. G. Chambers. The large growth of the Association in the provinces during the third year of its existence, he said, was due to the inauguration of "The Library Assistant." The provincial membership was now 82, of whom 56 belonged to the North-Western Branch. The establishment of other branches was only a question of time. Several officers of the L.A.A. had started their library careers in the provinces, including the present, and at least two past secretaries. The Colonial influence was started by the translation of Mr. Dyer to Kimberley. The outcome of his appointment being the election of three Kimberley assistants as members. He looked forward to the time when they would have branches in South Africa and other British colonies.

Mr. Soper in a particularly witty speech proposed "The Visitors," saying that they were always pleased to see librarians at their festivals, as it showed that the Association had their sympathy. As editor of "The Library Assistant" he had always received the utmost courtesy from them. He saw many gentlemen present who had not that pale and careworn expression denoting the librarian. He hoped they were borrowers. His examples of the questions with which assistants are assailed during the course of a day caused much amusement. Mr. Taylor, Librarian of St. Giles's

Public Library, briefly replied, thanking the Association for the invitation, and expressing the pleasure it would give him to invite them to the Holborn Libraries.

Mr. Cotgreave also responded, and in the course of his remarks said that as he remembered several happy meetings he felt that he really must accept this invitation. No one had a more sincere wish for the Association's progress than himself. He hoped they would all do their best to be present at the meeting which was shortly to be held at West Ham, when he hoped that they would feel that they were coming to see a friend. He had known Mr. Rees ever since he came to London, in 1888, and was pleased to see him in the chair.

In proposing the toast of "The Chairman," Mr. Peddie said that he had had the honour of once holding that position, which was now an easy job compared with what it was in the early stages. He regretted he could not attend the ordinary meetings. He managed to attend two events in the year, the Annual Meeting and the Annual Dinner. The Annual Dinner was one of the most pleasant functions and one to which he looked forward during the preceding months. He considered that the speech of Mr. Dyer, at the First Annual Dinner, had opened out a new era for the Association. It started in great difficulties, and had to fight a large number of opponents. Mr. Roberts and one or two more had stood by them. He himself took the bull by the horns, and read a paper on the L.A.A. before the Library Association. They had to say something about the L.A.A. in reply, and that had to be something good. Then Mr. Dyer came along with his fighting programme, which he maintained was the saving of the Association. It might have dropped for lack of energy. It was now a living force in the profession. Mr. Rees had the interests of the Association at heart, and he was prepared to back it up.

Mr. Rees, in reply, said it was the second year the Association had made him Chairman, and he felt the honour very much. The officers of the Association had always worked well with him. It was said when the journal started, "It will go on while Dyer's here, but who will take it up when he goes." Mr. Ogle and Mr. Hatcher had both done well, and since Mr. Soper had had it in hand the *Library Assistant* had not lost in health and vigour. He had been in the profession 25 years, having been appointed at Westminster in 1876, and he regretted that there was no Library Assistants' Association in those early days. He concluded by proposing the health of the Vice-Chairman.

Mr. Hatcher acknowledged the toast in a few words, saying that he could not claim to have been in the profession so long as

Mr. Rees. He had only seen nine years' service, and that in one library, where he had always felt at home. Since he had been a member of the Association he had taken a greater interest in his work.

Between the various toasts the company were entertained to a very varied and excellent programme of vocal and instrumental music, contributed by Mr. F. C. Chidgey, Mr. A. Cogswell, Mr. Cuthbert Collins, Mr. C. J. Courtney, Mr. A. H. Crouch, Mr. W. J. Harris, Mr. George Hiles, Mr. Walter Rees, Mr. D. P. Steed, Mr. H. P. Steed, Mr. W. B. Thorne, and Mr. W. J. Vellenoweth, Mr. H. P. Steed accompanying at the piano. The toast of "The Artistes" having been drank, the evening concluded with the singing of "Auld Lang Syne" and the "National Anthem"

W. B. Y.

LIBRARIANSHIP IN SOUTH AFRICA.

At an early meeting of this session will be read a paper with the above title which has been contributed by the Librarian of Kimberley, and which will form a useful supplement to the article by the Librarian of Buluwayo, which appeared in Volume I of this journal, when it was conducted under the editorial regis of Mr. Dyer.

From our Appointments column it will be seen that for the third time within a period of fifteen months a South African appointment has been given to an assistant from the ranks of our members. It is, we believe, the first assistant-librarianship in the Colonies which has been filled from a London Public Library staff. The salary we understand, is £120 per annum, which in spite of the increased cost of living in the Colonies, as compared to that at home, seems a substantial increase on the salaries paid at present in London Libraries.

That more appointments will fall to the members of the L.A.A. is our sincere belief, and it will be well if all the members who desire an improved position in their profession, keep an eye on possibilities of openings under the Southern Star.

A sign of the times that is at the least significant appears in the 1900 Report of the Committee of the East London Public Library, where, after recording that there were some 9,000 volumes in stock, that the income was £857, and that plans had been drawn up for a new Library building to cost £4,200 the Committee adds the following paragraph:—

"In concluding this report, your Committee bring to notice the desirability of having a professional Librarian. It is with no grudging spirit you are assured that the time and labour required to be spent in the service of this institution is already beyond what any body of

unleisured persons could be called on to bestow, and there also exists need for competent knowledge of the book market and trained experience in library management."

A further sign is that at Salisbury the Victoria Memorial Committee have decided that the memorial to the Queen-Empress shall take the form of a Public Library.

The field for trained Librarians in South Africa should be a wide one and our members have already done so well in securing recent appointments that we trust even more may find good appointments in the Dark Continent that is being so rapidly developed.

LIBRARY ASSOCIATION SUMMER SCHOOL.

The prizes for the best reports of the lectures on subjects connected with Library administration delivered at the meeting of the North-Western Summer School, held at Wigan in June last, have been awarded as follows:—First Prize, Mr. SYDNEY A. FIRTH, of the Public Library, Birkenhead. Second Prize, Mr. F. W. B. HOWARTH, of the Public Library, Manchester.

STUDY CIRCLE.

GENERAL REPORT FOR NOVEMBER.

The best answers to the Literary History questions were those of "Ami" (*Senior*) and "Mowgli" (*Junior*), whilst to the questions in Library Practice, "Nemo" (*Senior*) and "Quo" (*Junior*) contributed the answers of highest standard.

The Literary History "Bonne foi" was careless in composition, and "Pro Patria's" meaning is obscure in places. "C. A." "Puer," "Quo" and "Scott" having simply transcribed their answers, were disqualified. "Spitzbergen" mentions no dates, and "Tamesis II." sent too short an answer.

In Library Practice the senior answers are open to grave objection, principally in that they rely upon the borrowers notifying cases of infectious disease. The only safe method is to have notifications sent direct from the Medical Officer for the district. The junior answers are also unsatisfactory, students giving too much prominence to the "Encyclopædia Britannica." Several modern works relating to Afghanistan are almost entirely neglected. Only one student mentions Raverty, and several of the books suggested are antiquated and superseded.

GENERAL REPORT FOR DECEMBER.

The best answers to the Literary History questions are from "Bonne foi" (*Senior*) and "Puer" (*Junior*), whilst the best answers to Library Practice are those from "Pro Patria" (*Senior*) and "Savoy" (*Junior*).

In Literary History "C.A." is weak in composition, "Spitzbergen's" paper shows lack of thought, and "Tamesis II.," again, is too eager to condense his answer. "Quo" answered the question very intelligently. In Library Practice "Ami" and "Bonne foi" overlook the "Museums and Gymnasiums Act." "Nemo" mentions this, but is not quite conversant with the powers of the Act. The junior answers may satisfy the letter but not the spirit of the question. Only "Savoy" gives any reason for the choice of material. The answers of "C.A." and "Puer" are insufficient.

RESULTS OF THIRD SESSION.

Number of Marks obtained.

Senior Division.			Junior Division.		
"Nemo" ...	...	451 marks	"Savoy" ...	...	555 marks
"Ami" ...	...	442 "	"Quo" ...	...	435 "
"Pro Patria" ...	...	405 "	"Puer" ...	...	405 "
*"Bonne foi" ...	...	285 "	"Spitzbergen" ...	...	375 "
†"Adsum" ...	...	143 "	*"Mowgli" ...	...	355 "
			"C.A." ...	...	340 "
			"Tamesis II." ...	...	305 "
			†"Coddam" ...	...	170 "
			†"Stebenhithe" ...	...	110 "
			†"Scott" ...	...	50 "

* 2 month's work. † 1 month's work.

The Education Committee therefore award the Senior Prize, Morley's "Victorian Literature," to "Nemo," Mr. Richard Iveson, of the Leeds Public Libraries, and the Junior Prize, "Scott's Poetical Works" to "Savoy," Mr. Douglas A. Gillespie, of the Westminster Public Libraries.

GENERAL PRIZES TO S.C. STUDENTS.

The United States Bureau of Education have forwarded to the Hon. Sec. a copy of Cutter's "Rules for a Dictionary Catalog" for *each* student, and all who have contributed papers to the Study Circle will receive a copy upon forwarding two penny stamps to the Hon. Sec., L.A.A., not later than Jan. 21st.

FOURTH SESSION.

READINGS FOR JANUARY.

*Brooke's "Primer of English Literature." *Chap. viii.*

Morley's English Literature in the reign of Victoria." *Chap. vii.*

Saintsbury's Nineteenth Century Literature. *Chap. iii.*

Also contemporary biographical matter (*Senior and Junior divisions*).

* Junior.

QUESTIONS ON DECEMBER READINGS:—

1. Literary History.

Senior. "Give a brief account of the early Nineteenth Century essayists."

Junior. "State the most important historical works written in the first quarter of the nineteenth century."

2. Library Practice.

Senior. "Mention such as you can of the most important systems of classification and state wherein they differ."

Junior. "Should Public Library books be stamped?"

NOTE. Students should attempt *one*, if not both of the questions, in order to obtain marks for the *Annual Prize*. The loss of a prize is honourable, but lack of perseverance is a bad quality in any library assistant.

Answers to this month's questions must be sent to the Hon. Secretary on or before Saturday, January 18th.

* HOW TO POPULARISE A PUBLIC LIBRARY.

BY WILLIAM J. HARRIS.

Many and various are the methods which may be employed, though too often left unemployed unfortunately, to popularise our Public Libraries, which without the skilful steerage of a master-hand at the helm show but a sorry result for the money that is spent upon them. Libraries require as much advertising in their own particular way as any business, and the Librarian should look to it (as of course the energetic and zealous librarian does) that his library, *though not himself*, is kept well before the public's eyes. Then with judicious administration and thoughtful organisation, the library should do some good work.

With regard to situation, the library should be placed as near as possible in the centre of the town or district which it is intended to serve, and should occupy a prominent position in a main or business thoroughfare. It is desired to place knowledge within easy access of the ignorant, not to make them search for it in hidden places. How often is a Public Library stowed away in some by street, while the earnest stranger enquires, often with small success, its whereabouts of the surrounding yet apathetic borrowers.

One great influence which tends to make a library popular is the friendly and helpful courtesy with which a librarian and his staff meet the public. It should be the ever earnest endeavour of the library staff to make the stranger welcome, by instructing him or her in the principles upon which the library is worked.

The administration of the library should be reduced to simplicity from the borrowers' point of view, and the fewer the rules the better. As most librarians with experience know, the public are not fond of rules; therefore the wise librarian will meet them as far as possible on this point as on all others.

The library should be fully catalogued, and the catalogue kept up to date by the means of a card cabinet. This saves

endless unnecessary enquiries. Every library should set aside a special section for young readers, and the age limit should be as low as possible. Juvenile readers should be invited and encouraged by the providing of a good selection of sound and wholesome literature for their use, and the preparation of a special catalogue by means of which their choice may be guided, and the work of selection made lighter for them. Neighbouring schoolmasters' co-operation should be solicited to complete the valuable work of attracting the young to the library. Some libraries circulate boxes of books in the neighbouring schools, under the supervision of one of the masters, and the boxes are changed periodically.

No library is complete without its musical section. This adds much to the recreative side of the utility of public libraries. The selection should consist of standard operas, oratorios and orchestral scores, besides works on the theory and practice of music.

The librarian should persuade the local papers (and this is not difficult where tact is used) to publish the newest list of books added to the library. Few local editors would prove obstinate if approached in the right spirit. Lists also should be prepared of books dealing with the topics of the day. Statistics of library work should be sent to the local papers, thus keeping the library in public notice. It is advisable, too, to study the syllabuses of the local literary and scientific societies, and to bring before their notice a list of books contained in the library, dealing with their special subjects. This would probably secure members' patronage, besides assisting and advancing them.

Readers and borrowers should be interested in the history and topography of their own neighbourhood. Collections of prints and sketches of the district should be hung on the walls of the reading room, and supplemented in the reference library by all possible local literature.

Some libraries are conducting series of lectures by professional lecturers. This interests and attracts the public.

The contents of all the magazines, etc., taken in the library should be placed on a convenient notice board in the various rooms for the benefit of intending readers.

Writing tables with accessories, such as pens, ink, pencils, etc., placed under proper supervision, should be an advantage and assistance, which the public would not be slow to seize.

The issuing of *bulletins*, either quarterly or bi-monthly, when properly or intelligently conducted, unquestionably tends to arouse public interest in the library.

The lending department, the most important side of the

library, should contain only the best works, and these in ample quantity. No books should be harboured on the shelves which do not circulate. These should be removed to the basement, and replaced by books which will circulate. Books are not ornaments for shelves, but tools for readers. Many present existing libraries would be the better for such a clearance and replacement.

The one great ideal of the librarian should be, to *give*, or assist to give, *culture*, which before he can give, he must possess. Librarians cannot attach too much importance to the acquisition of culture. A librarian should also make the library bright enough to attract all classes of the community. And here a word might be added. A library will never become popular or well patronised without it contains in abundance those three great essentials to comfort: *warmth, light and cleanliness*. However well stocked the library may be with books, the librarian will never induce his public to sit in cold and draughty, or ill-lighted and uncleanly rooms. Therefore let him look to it that his library attract his public in this respect. Let him, also, be ever ready to help the ignorant in their choice of books, and ever courteous to all, and thereby gain both his readers' respect and popularise the library.

NOTES AND NEWS.

Study Circle.—With this month's issue begins the Fourth Session of the Study Circle. This is the commencement of a new year's work, and intending students should make themselves acquainted with the particulars contained in our September and October issues.

Donation to the L.A.A. Library.—Mr. Cockerell has presented a copy of his recently issued text book on "Book binding and the care of books," to which we drew attention last month.

Society of Public Librarians.—At a meeting held at the Bishopsgate Institute on Wednesday evening, December 4th, Mr. C. Whitwell (West Ham) read a paper entitled, "Notes on juvenile literature of the 18th and 19th centuries."

Mile End.—The Library is to be opened on January 9th by Canon Barnett, Warden of Toynbee Hall.

NEW MEMBERS.

Senior.—BUDDERY, E. E. (West Ham).

Junior.—BEER, F. A. R. (West Ham); BLACKMORE, C. F. (Stoke Newington); LEIGHTON, T. (West Ham).

APPOINTMENTS AND CHANGES.

*CHAMBERLAIN, F. Arthur. Transferred from Rotherhithe to Bermondsey Central Library as 2nd Assistant.

*HARRADINE, F. C. Junior Assistant, Leyton, to be Assistant, Poplar Library, E.

*MATTOCKS, S. G., Assistant, Hampstead, to be Assistant Librarian, Kimberley Public Library, South Africa.

*Members of the Library Assistants' Association.

BOOKS, &c., RECEIVED.

Leyton Public Libraries Magazine (Quarterly), No. 13, November, 1901. Edited by Z. Moon, F.R. Hist. S., Librarian.

Manchester Public Libraries, 49th Annual Report, 1900-1.

West Ham Public Libraries Quarterly Notes, July-September, 1901. Edited by A. Cotgreave, F.R. Hist. S., Chief Librarian.

Stoke Newington Public Second Supplementary Catalogue, 8vo., pp. 1-11 and 112 price 3d. Contains the titles of 3,500 volumes added during the period, Aug. 1900-Nov. 1901.

APPOINTMENTS VACANT.

[**Notice to Library Authorities.**—*We shall be pleased to publish under this heading, free of charge, particulars of vacancies if full details are sent to the Editor on or before the 25th of each month.*]

BOROUGH OF LEWISHAM.

PUBLIC LIBRARIES COMMITTEE.

The Committee require the services of a Sub-Librarian at a salary of £100 per annum to take charge of the Branch Library at Lee. Previous experience in Public Library work and organisation essential. Applicants must not be under 21 or over 25 years of age.

Applications in candidate's own hand writing to be made on printed forms to be obtained from the undersigned, accompanied by copies of not more than three recent testimonials, which are to be sent in and endorsed "Application—Sub-Librarian" on or before Monday, January 13th, 1902.

The appointment will be made subject to the rules and regulations of the Council from time to time in force, and subject to medical examination.

Canvassing is prohibited.

EDWARD WRIGHT,

LEWISHAM TOWN HALL,
CATFORD, S.E.

Town Clerk.

19th December, 1901.

NOTICES.

Annual subscriptions to the L.A.A. are now due, and should be sent to Mr. W. Geo. Chambers, *Hon. Treasurer*, Public Library, Woolwich. Members of the N.W. Branch should send their subscriptions to Mr. W. Crompton, Y.M.C.A. Library, Manchester.

All matter for the February number should reach the *Hon. Editor* on or before 20th January.

All other communications should be addressed to the *Hon. Secretary*, Mr. G. E. Roebuck, 121 DE BEAUVOIR ROAD, KINGSLAND, N.

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